

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRASIL 05250 262133Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 43

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 5250

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EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BR

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN REPRESENTATION OF NORTHROP

REF: STATE 146119

1. ON MY RETURN ON JUNE 25 FROM MY TRIP WITH SECRETARY BUTZ TO RIO AND SAO PAULO, I DISCUSSED THE CONTENTS OF REFTEL WITH ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER GUERREIRO. I EMPHASIZED IN MY GENERAL REMARKS (A) THE PURPOSE OF MY APPROACH; (B) OUR DESIRE THAT PRESIDENT GEISEL BE BRIEFED ON THE MATTER; (C) THE FACT THAT I INTENDED TO KEEP THIS MATTER STRICTLY WITHIN FOREIGN MINISTER-PRESIDENCY CHANNELS; AND (D) THE PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE DOCUMENTS.

2. AT GUERREIRO'S REQUEST, MADE AFTER MY GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROBLEM AS INDICATED IN THE DOCUMENTS, I READ TO HIM THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DOCUMENTS, USING THE TEXT OF THE REFTEL. I STRESSED THE POINTS MADE IN PARA 7 OF REFTEL.

3. IN MY READING OF PARAS 3-6, GUERRIERO ASKED ME TO REPEAT VARIOUS PASSAGES AND OCCASIONALLY REQUESTED AN INTERPRETATION. I DEMURRED, SAYING THAT I DID NOT WANT TO VENTURE ANY OPINIONS WITHOUT HAVING KNOWLEDGE OF THE FULL TEXTS.

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I DID EXPLAIN, IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ABOUT PARA 6,

THAT THE PURCHASE HAD BEEN ORIGINALLY INTENDED TO PROVIDE FORTY-EIGHT PLANES, AND THAT THE NUMBER HAD BEEN FINALLY SCALED DOWN TO FORTY-TWO.

4. AFTER THIS PROCEDURE, GUERRIERO SAID THAT HE HAD A GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF OUR PURPOSE AND OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DOCUMENTS. HE STATED THAT HE WOULD BRIEF THE PRESIDENT AND, ON HIS RETURN, THE FOREIGN MINISTER, AND THAT HE WOULD KEEP IN TOUCH WITH ME.

5. WHEN GUERREIRO SUGGESTED THAT THE PRESIDENT MIGHT WANT TO HAVE A WRITTEN TEXT OF WHAT I HAD READ, I TOLD HIM, STRESSING THE PRIVILEGED NATURE OF THE DOCUMENTS, THAT I WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT WASHINGTON BUT THAT I PERSONALLY BELIEVED THAT A REQUEST BY THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE HONORED, PROVIDED THAT THE HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE DOCUMENTS WAS UNDERSTOOD AND RESPECTED. GUERRIERO AND I LEFT IT THAT WE WOULD WAIT TO SEE WHAT GEISEL'S DESIRES WERE.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: AGAINST THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE PRESIDENT MAY WISH A WRITTEN VERSION OF PARAS 3-6 OF REFTTEL, PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHETHER I CAN ACCOMMODATE HIM.
CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, DOCUMENTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BRASIL05250
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750222-0633
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750611/aaaaajfm.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 75 STATE 146119
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 SEP 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <03 DEC 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRAZILIAN REPRESENTATION OF NORTHROP
TAGS: PFOR, BR, NORTHROP, (GUERREIRO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006